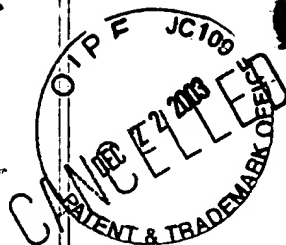


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on: December 19, 2003

John J. Torrente

Signature

December 19, 2003
Date of Signature



#28
1-13-04
Resp/Unit
F

PATENT
B208-685 DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fumiaki Takahashi, et al.
Serial No.: 09/240,134
For: SYSTEM CONTROL METHOD AND SYSTEM CONTROL APPARATUS
Filed: January 29, 1999
Examiner: Le H. Luu
Art Unit: 2141

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

RECEIVED
JAN 06 2004
Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed August 19, 2003.

- 1) **Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.